



St. Louis Audubon Society



VOLUME 60, NUMBER 6

DECEMBER 1993

Join St. Louis Audubon's Trip to Belize and Tikal

by Paul Bauer

In early March a St. Louis Audubon group plans to explore rainforests in Belize and the Mayan ruins at Tikal, and then relax on a resort island within the Belize barrier reef. **Sign up now if you want to be part of this 11-day adventure.**

Summary features of this trip and a detailed daily itinerary with a reservation slip are provided as an insert. If you want an 8-page, full color brochure showing some of the stunning sights we will see, lists of over 250 birds and 20 animals found by previous groups, and a complete reservation form, call **Paul Bauer at 921-3972.**

International Expeditions has uniquely designed this trip to maximize our enjoyment of the numerous natural wonders in this region; it's called a Naturalist Quest. For example, at Tikal National Park our accommodations at Tikal Inn are inside the park, so we can stay as late or start as early as each individual desires. Our group will have experienced naturalist guides for each segment of the trip.

Ecotourist trips like this one are being offered in response to requests from several members. We plan to offer 1 or 2 trips of this type each year if possible; member support will make it happen. If you need a passport, get applications at your post office. Allow 6 weeks for delivery after your application and photos are submitted.

Make you reservations now, if you want to be part of this adventure with us in March. Invite a friend; double your fun.

A Grateful Good-bye to Mary Wiese

by Katherine Chambers

The St. Louis Audubon has lost a valuable member in Mary Wiese, who died on November 10 as a result of being hit by a motorcycle while she was walking across the street in Santa Fe, New Mexico, last June.

Her husband was with her at the time but, fortunately, received only minor injuries. All summer Mary's family and friends hoped she would recover, but it was not to be.

The Wieses have been active members of St. Louis Audubon for over 20 years. Mary was on the board in 1972 and edited the newsletter for several years. She also suggested having an annual dinner. Bill was on the board later and helped to arrange the screen tours.

Both Mary and Bill have given programs and contributed to the **Audubon Adventures** program. Mary's participation in the Birdathon netted over \$600 one year. There is no doubt that her family won't be alone in missing this remarkable woman.

New Survey Welcomes Your Input

by Dave Tylka

The Strategic Planning Committee is trying to make St. Louis Audubon more responsive to its members' interests and needs. To help this committee plan activities and directions for our chapter, we need your input. In January, we will be sending out a questionnaire to every chapter member to find

out what activities we are doing now that you like and what activities you would like us to begin to do or do better in the future.

To maximize our efforts, we are asking members to please fill out this questionnaire and promptly mail it back. If you do not receive a questionnaire in January (sometimes the mailing label system fails), please call Dave Tylka at 942-3142, and I'll mail one out to you. Filling out this questionnaire will be sincerely appreciated. Thank you!

Phone Numbers for Rare Bird Alert

From late fall through early spring each year, a number of unusual or exceptional birds are discovered visiting the St. Louis area. Some of our members may want to view these rare discoveries to spice up the winter months. How do you find out what was seen and where it can be found?

Below are 3 telephone numbers for recorded messages on rare birds seen in this region. Usually, these messages are updated weekly, or more often if necessary. A short summary of the "best" birds seen is provided with when, where, and how-to-get-there details. If you are able to record the message, you can replay it to get details you could not write down. Should you have a sighting to report, this input can be provided at the end of the recorded message, after the "beep."

ST. LOUIS AREA
(Tyson Nature Line) 935-8432
MISSOURI 1-445-9115
ILLINOIS (Central) 217-785-1083

Missouri Audubon Council Seeks Lobbyist

The Audubon chapters in Missouri are in need of someone to speak for us in the legislature in Jefferson City next year. Our long-time dedicated lobbyist, Charlie Callison, passed away in February. He was sorely missed during the 1993 session.

The Missouri Audubon Council is seeking an effective communicator who is comfortable addressing legislators individually in their offices and in testimony before committees. We're looking for someone who understands the legislative process and can track bills as they move through it. A qualified candidate need not be an Audubon member but should be familiar with environmental issues. Our lobbyist will need to act quickly to alert Audubon members, by letter and phone, when constituent action is needed.

During the legislative session, which runs from early January through mid-May, we anticipate lobbying will require at least 3 full days a week. In addition, we'd like our lobbyist to attend 3 Missouri Audubon Council meetings during the year. Our meetings last from 2 to 6 hours and are held somewhere in central Missouri, usually Jefferson City.

The council will pay all necessary expenses. Unfortunately, there is no money for salary—but we believe our lobbyist will be richly rewarded in job satisfaction.

If you are interested, please call Anita Randolph in Jefferson City (314/635-6018) or David Mead in St. Joseph (816/232-5636) or Karen Uhlenhuth in Kansas City (816/561-1371). We'd like to select someone as soon as possible.

Audubon Profits from Bird Seed Sales

by Mike Juelfs

This year's bird seed sale, sponsored by St. Louis Audubon, was a success. We sold a total of 32 twenty-five pound bags and 128 fifty-pound bags, giving us a profit of \$794.

Thank you to all who purchased the seed. We hope you enjoy your winter bird feeding.

Terry Whaley, Rex Schmidt, and I thank Howard Adams, Bill Brandhorst, Jerry Castillon, Jim Jennings, Jerry Miller, Arthur Montgomery, and Bill Salsgiver for taking time away from their warm homes to help distribute seed on the chilly day of November 6.

Mobilizing Missouri

by Mary Dueren

The first bi-annual statewide conference on conservation and the environment was held at the YMCA of the Ozarks in Potosi on November 19 and 20. This unique new conference was designed to bring together the Missouri conservation and environmental interests in an effort to encourage sharing, dialogue, and collaboration among this broad community.

Organized by the Missouri Coalition for Education in the Outdoors (MCEO), the conference was endorsed and sponsored by 17 other organizations. Our Audubon chapter sent Katherine Chambers and me. The conference attendees included educators, activists, environmental professionals, and interested citizens.

Friday was spent getting to know many of the people attending the conference. After a hearty supper and a chilly walk to the Danforth Chapel, everyone was welcomed by our MCEO hosts. The keynote speaker was Dennis Carman, who spoke on "Educational Implications of Artistic Perceptions in Nature, and the Chinese Rationale for our Environmental Stewardship." Mr. Carman has taught art for 20 years in Excelsior Springs, Mo. He is the 1991 Conservation Federation's Educator of the Year and is a member of the MO Environmental Education Task Force. In 1992, he attended the US-China Conference on Education through People to People International.

On Saturday, conference attendees had a wide selection of topics and discussions in which to participate. Themes for discussion included education, action-implementation, understanding, and field trips. Katherine and I first focused on education and attended a workshop presented by the St. Louis Zoo. The topic was "Relating Multi-cultural Education to Environmental Education." The next session was a visit to one of the lead mining superfund sites in the old lead belt. This site is located in St. Joe State Park, where a tailings dam threatens local towns due to collapse resulting from possible area earthquakes.

After lunch, Katherine went to the Sayersbrooke Buffalo Farm, which she found most interesting. I attended a session on the Missouri Conservation Department's program called "Conservation Frontier." I concluded the day's events with a field trip to Bonne Terre Mine, which I highly recommend to everyone.

There were many topics we wish we could have participated in but could not because of lack of time—the Project Learning Tree, the Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project, lead mining, sustainable forestry implementation, and organization of Earth Day events, to name a few. No date for the next conference has been set, but we hope to attend again.



U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

Bird Walks

Bring binoculars, bird field guide, and dress for field conditions & weather. Coaching & instruction for all levels. Call leader for confirmation & more info.

Saturday, January 8, 1994 — Meet at 8:30 am at **Riverlands**. Leader: Paul Bauer, H# 921-3972. On Miss. River near Alton. Go north on Hwy 367 from I-270 in north St. Louis Co. Hwy 367 joins US 67 & crosses Missouri River. Continue to last large gas station in MO & turn right into Riverlands; meet at Riverlands map/sign just beyond gas station.

Saturday, February 5, 1994 — Meet at 8:30 am at **Riverlands**. Leader: Paul Bauer, H# 921-3972. See directions in above entry.

Saturday, March 12, 1994 — Meet at 8:30 am at **Riverlands**, then to **Horseshoe Lake State Park**. Leader: Paul Bauer, H# 921-3972. See directions to Riverlands above. To reach Horseshoe Lake, take I-55/70 east of St. Louis to north on Hwy 111. Go to park entrance & concession stand.

National Audubon Christmas Bird Counts

Saturday, December 18 — Bird Count at **Pere Marquette State Park, Il.** For more info., call Helen Wuestenfeld, H# 618/498-5335.

Sunday, December 19 — Bird Count at **Busch Wildlife Area in St. Charles County**. For more info., call Tom Parmeter, H# 921-6017.

Saturday, January 1, 1994 — Bird Count at **Orchard Farm in St. Charles County**. For more info., call Randy Korotev, H# 935-5637.

WGNSS Nature Walks

For Audubon members wanting to enjoy more nature walks, you may want to take part in the birding & botany trips offered nearly every week by the Webster Groves Nature Study Society (WGNSS).

Birding Field Trips — Almost every Saturday starting at 7:30 am. Contact David Becher Thursday or Friday evening at 576-1146 for meeting place.

Botany Field Trips — Almost every Thursday at 9 am. Call Catherine Filla at 481-5298 after 5 pm Wednesday for meeting location.

Special Events

Friday, January 7, 1994 — **Joint Program of WGNSS & St. Louis Audubon**, 8 pm, at Powder Valley Nature Center, 11715 Cragwood Rd., Kirkwood. **Paul Nelson**, Chief of Natural History Programs, Division of State Parks, MO Dept. of Natural Resources, will speak on **threats to & restoration of ecosystems in state parks & lands**.

Saturday & Sunday, January 29 & 30, 1994 — **Eagle Days**, sponsored by MO Dept. of Conservation, at Clarksville, 9 am to 4 pm. St. Louis Audubon will again be helping at this event & have a booth inside the Apple Shed. Program on the American bald eagle at Apple Shed, with live eagle on display. Viewing of eagles along the river will be assisted by knowledgeable members of Audubon and Conservation Dept. staff. If you would like to help in the **Audubon booth**, please call **George Myers**, H# 821-1585; if you want to help the **Conservation Dept.**, please call **Jerry Miller**, H# 389-3969.

Saturday, March 5, 1994 — **St. Louis Audubon Breakfast Membership Meeting**, 8 am at Howard

Johnson's, 1130 S. Kirkwood. Call Mary Lou Miller, H# 389-3969, to make reservation. First 50 accepted by deadline of March 2.

Thursday-Sunday, March 17-20, 1994 — **National Audubon Society West Central Regional River Conference** in Kearney, Nebraska. Highlight of this conference is viewing sandhill cranes along the Platte River.

Audubon at World Bird Sanctuary Open House

by Mary Lou Miller

On October 23 and 24, the St. Louis Audubon Society provided a booth at the World Bird Sanctuary Open House at Tyson Research Center from 10 am to 5 pm both days. We passed out information, pushed membership and the bird seed sale, and talked to many people about a variety of things including problems with bird feeders.

The beautiful fall weather was great, and a steady flow of people at our booth kept us all busy. Those who helped the 2 days are:

Howard Adams
Barbara Buchanan
Herb Buchanan
Katherine Chambers
Ron Darling
Don Davis
Mary Dueren
LaVerne Koyne
Marilyn Martin
Martha McManus
Jerry Miller
Mary Lou Miller
Arthur Montgomery
Karen Myer
George Myers
Rex Schmidt
Nick Staten
Terry Whaley

Mary Dueren and Mary Lou and Jerry Miller were responsible for getting the booth set up and taken down and all materials there. Mary Dueren also made sure we had enough handouts available. Thank you to all who helped.

THE CONSERVATION CORNER

Audubon Concerned with Levees and Wetlands

by Jim Holsen

For St. Louis, at the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, the big story this year has certainly been the devastating flood that wouldn't end.

As we drive through the flooded areas and see the houses with warped siding and furniture left to dry out on the caked mud that was once a lawn, we must sympathize with those who returned to find a hideous mess. But this time there is a new awareness that the only way to end this cycle of devastation is to return the floodplains to their traditional state—wetlands and open spaces.

Missouri's record for destruction of wetlands, including the drainage of the lowlands in "swampeast Missouri," is one of the worst in the nation. Overall, the U.S. has lost 50% of its original wetlands, but in Missouri the loss is 87%. The flood control strategy in Missouri has been to construct large impoundments in the hilly Ozarks and to channelize the rivers in the north, where large dams are impractical.

In September, a joint meeting of national associations of floodplain managers and wetlands managers held in St. Louis attracted representatives of state and federal agencies, as well as many environmental groups. St. Louis Audubon participated, as did Ron Klataske, our regional vice president from Manhattan, Kansas. Professionals in river management saw many opportunities for effective action on wetlands restoration. A representative from the Clinton White House carried their recommendations back to Washington.

Since then we have seen almost daily stories in the newspapers that tell of the power struggle between developers and professionals.

Senator Kit Bond, with the support of the Missouri Farm Bureau, has fought for the restoration of local levees that had failed to meet the eligibility standards of the Corps of Engineers. Representative Gephardt, on the other hand, has supported creative proposals for making existing funds such as housing development money available for buy-out and relocation assistance. Representative Volkmer also supported a buy-out assistance bill.

This is a unique opportunity for wetland restoration. Even the Corps of Engineers is beginning to turn from the structural solutions, such as dams and channelization, for flood control to non-structural programs such as floodplain protection.

New Plan for Forest Park

by Jim Holsen

St. Louis Mayor Freeman Bosley, Jr., has called for public discussions leading to the preparation of a new plan for the improvement of Forest Park. Meetings were held on December 3, 4, and 5, and it is expected that a new plan can be ratified by the board of aldermen in early 1994.

A 1983 Master Plan recommended the designation of a core area including the Zoo, Art Museum, Municipal Opera, Science Center, and Jefferson Memorial, with a loop road to facilitate access to those institutions and other areas of the park. New development would be prohibited in the core area, but three "opportunity areas" were identified outside the core for new activities. Forest Park Forever presented a new, but similar, 1993 plan prepared by Kelly/Varnell, landscape architects from New York City.

St. Louis Audubon, Citizens To Protect Forest Park, the Missouri Coalition for the Environment, and

other environmental groups oppose any further development within the park and want more of the park area to be devoted to so-called passive activities, for relaxation in a natural environment. The loop-road concept, with no or very limited on-street parking, appears to promote institutional activities at the expense of opportunities for family-type recreation.

Ozone Pollution

by Jim Holsen

St. Louis is a non-attainment region for the reduction of the volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) that react to form smog-producing ozone. The city is only marginally noncompliant with EPA regulations.

In the St. Louis area, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) had the responsibility to submit to the EPA by November 15 of this year a plan to reduce ozone-producing emissions by at least 15% by 1996. If the reduction is not accomplished, Missouri could lose \$400 million annually in federal highway funds and face possible restrictions on development in St. Louis.

DNR's preferred plan had 3 parts: 1) to accomplish 50% of the reduction through stricter standards for inspection and control of automobile emissions, 2) to accomplish 30% of the reduction by requiring that reformulated gasoline be used in the St. Louis area, and 3) to accomplish the remaining 20% of the reduction by imposing stronger controls over the businesses, mostly small ones like paint shops, dry cleaners, and printers that use volatile chemicals.

Reformulated gasoline will cost from 6 to 10 cents more per gallon and is the only controversial part of the plan. Its use is opposed by particularly large business interests, including petroleum refiners and the American Corn Growers Association, with headquarters in St. Louis. Only a limited quantity of ethanol can be blended with reformulated gasoline.

As expected, the Regional Commerce and Growth Association (RCGA) opposed DNR's plan. RCGA proposed that a low volatility gasoline, less expensive but also much less effective, be marketed in the St. Louis area and that even stricter controls be imposed on small businesses. DNR argued that that approach is not only more expensive to area residents, but also less effective. The East West Gateway Coordinating Council technical staff recommended acceptance of the DNR plan, but the board hesitated and postponed a decision.

DNR submitted its plan on November 15, but without Governor Carnahan's approval for the use of reformulated gasoline, as required by EPA. Instead, Governor Carnahan ordered the use of low volatility gasoline, as proposed by RCGA, with the provision that reformulated gasoline be considered if that becomes necessary. The Carnahan approach is not only more expensive to area taxpayers, but it also places a heavier burden on DNR for enforcement of controls on small businesses.

This situation is one more example of the clash between major business interests and the professional staffs of the responsible agencies. St. Louis Audubon and other environmental groups supported DNR.

Audubon Members Encouraged to Join World Bird Sanctuary

Audubon Society members may now become sponsors of the World Bird Sanctuary at reduced rates. You may become a WBS sponsor at the \$25, \$50, \$100 level, or above, with a \$5 reduction for qualifying Audubon members.

Friends of the World Bird Sanctuary receive a sponsorship card, decal, private tour of WBS facilities, the quarterly newsletter *Mews News*, free owl prowls, and invitations to all WBS special events.

Sponsors at the \$50 level and above also receive a signed and limited edition peregrine falcon print by wildlife artist David Planke.

The World Bird Sanctuary's mission is to preserve the earth's biological diversity and to secure the future of threatened bird species in their natural environments.

The World Bird Sanctuary, previously known as the Raptor Rehabilitation and Propagation Project, Inc., is based near Eureka. Our successes include the reintroduction of the peregrine falcon as a breeding species in Missouri for the first time in 100 years. WBS also has barn owl and bald eagle reintroduction programs in Missouri. Last year WBS educated over 2 million people around the country, including well over 70,000 school children in the St. Louis area.

Please send your tax-deductible donation to the attention of:

**Marion V. Ernst
World Bird Sanctuary
P.O. Box 270270
St. Louis, MO 63127**

Or call 314/938-6193 for information about WBS's Adopt-A-Bird Program, Office of Wildlife Learning, Internship Program, Raptory Theatre Zoo Programs, or the Peregrine Falcon Club.

Don't miss this opportunity to become a friend of birds worldwide!

Birding Area Guide Recently Published

The Audubon Society of Missouri recently announced the publication of a new guide book designed to help locate good birding areas across the entire state. The book will be of interest to all birders and also to those who like to get outside and enjoy nature.

The book, *A Guide to the Birding Areas of Missouri*, features descriptions of 128 areas known to be good bird habitat throughout the state. Each site described in the 188-page book includes detailed directions to the location, a general description, best points

about the area, common and rare or unusual species found there, general data, and any restrictions or cautions about that location.

The guide also contains original line drawings and maps of the larger sites. It uses information from 44 local birders who wrote the site descriptions. Kay Palmer is the editor and designer of the book.

This new reference sells for \$10, plus \$1.50 for shipping and handling, and can be ordered from:

**Kay Palmer
15100 S. Clinkenbeard Rd.
Ashland, MO 65010
Make checks payable to:
Audubon Society of Missouri**

New Slide Shows Available

St. Louis Audubon recently purchased from Partners In Flight a slide show entitled "International Migratory Birds," consisting of 60 slides, a cassette tape, and script. This slide show will be available to teachers, other educators, and our members. This excellent presentation was put together jointly by several organizations who are involved in the Partners In Flight group. Call Mary Lou Miller to borrow this program (389-3969).

St. Louis Audubon members have also recently compiled a 20-minute slide show consisting of slides from the National Audubon Society and slides from our own chapter, giving information about both organizations. Handouts are also available to those attending a program from our chapter. This slide show will soon have a cassette tape provided with it; the script is already complete.

Mary Lou Miller presented this show to the Ferguson Kiwanis Club at their November dinner meeting. It will be used again in January by Rex Schmidt for a senior citizens group in Arnold. If you would like to have this show presented to members of your club or organization, please contact Mary Lou Miller (389-3969) to make arrangements.

AUDUBON ADVENTURES



The Education Corner

Wrap-Up on *Audubon Adventures*

by Mary Dueren

On November 1, the St. Louis Audubon Society closed out *Audubon Adventures* subscriptions for this school year. Thank you to those who sent in subscriptions and to everyone who contributed to this educational program by making donations and by purchasing patches, field guides, t-shirts, bird seed, etc. This allowed our chapter to fund 140 fifth grades in the City of St. Louis Public Schools.

Other subscriptions include:
Alta Sita School, East St. Louis, IL
Avery School, Webster Groves
Dodds C. C., Mt. Vernon, IL
Grace Chapel Lutheran
McKinley School, Normandy (2)
Parkway Central Middle School
St. Pius V
Solomon Schechter Day School

As soon as I hear from National Audubon Society about our final total, I will inform you through this newsletter. I will also publish the curriculum for the 1994-95 school year as soon as it is available. For more information about the *Audubon Adventures* program, please contact me, and I will be glad to send out samples or discuss the program with you.



Support *Audubon Adventures* and Receive a Ceramic Mug

A lovely 10-ounce ceramic coffee mug with either of the new ST. LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY logos or the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY logo is yours with a donation of \$25 or more to help provide *Audubon Adventures* to 5th grade students. Helping these young people to gain a positive attitude about nature and the environment is a critical step for their future and for all of our conservation efforts.

You have 3 choices for your gift mug:

A. *Bluebird landing on flowering dogwood, yellow background, ST. LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY in black letters.*

B. *Great egret flying and St. Louis arch, blue background, ST. LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY in yellow letters.*

C. *Photo of great egret flying, blue background, NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY: MEMBER in white letters.*

**Donate \$45 or more and get any 2 mug styles.

**Donate \$60 or more and get 3 mugs in any mix of choices.

Each mug comes in a free silver, foil covered gift box. For direct mailing to your home, add \$2.50 for each mug ordered. Avoid this mailing cost by picking up mugs at the next Audubon board meeting or meet with Mary Dueren. Allow 3 to 4 weeks for delivery after you mail your order.

Send your donation check, name and address, choice of mug(s) desired, and any shipping fees to:

Mary Dueren
1701 Rathford Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63146
CONSIDER *Audubon Adventures*
AND GIFT MUGS FOR YOUR HOLIDAY GIFT PLANS!

All Species Halloween Gala a Great Success

by Jerry Klamon

The St. Louis All Species Halloween Gala on October 30 was performed for approximately 700 children and their parents, in 2 shows, at the St. Louis Zoo. The Gala was the culmination of a month of student activities at 8 different schools in the City of St. Louis, the Missouri Botanical Garden, Powder Valley Nature Center, and the St. Louis Zoo.

Two workshops were held for each of 5 elementary schools. The first workshop, conducted by a guest naturalist, introduced the children to the habitat that they would be representing in the Gala. The second allowed them to create a costume. The students selected 1 design out of 4 to 5, based on endangered species from their habitat. The costumes were designed and the workshops conducted by St. Louis artist Ann Julien.

The art teachers at each school spent many hours with the children embellishing their costumes, and some presented related art lessons in drawing and painting based on their habitat. Orientation workshops were also held with students and teachers from 3 high schools that provided production support. Three community costume-making workshops were held on Saturdays and were open to the public.

In total, approximately 175 students participated in the Gala.

The All Species Gala was initiated by the National Audubon Society and coordinated locally by EarthWays and EarthArts International. Local sponsors included the Missouri Botanical Garden, the St. Louis Zoo, and the Missouri Department of Conservation. Funding and support were provided by EarthWays, National Audubon Society, the St. Louis Chapter of the Audubon Society, Murray Print Shop, and Schnucks Markets.

Community Club Awards

by Kathleen Ash

By the time you read this, the Audubon Society will have completed the 7 turn-ins for the current CCA campaign. I won't know the amount we've won until January 18 and will report it to you in the next newsletter.

I want to thank my many dedicated "pen pals" who have kept me supplied with receipts and proofs of purchases for the last 4 months. Without these, we couldn't compete! Thanks go to:

Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Anderson **Susan Gross**

Howard Bryan

Alyce Hildebrandt

R. A. Buckles

Randy Korotev

Katherine Chambers

Robert Knickmeyer

H. P. Day

Candy Kroupa

Mary Dueren

Lena Lane

Benedict Ellis

Sara Lenoe

Helen Forster

Betty Miller

Mary Lou Miller

Madeleine Price

Jeanette L. Ray

Bill Salsgiver

Rose Mary Shannon

Karen West

I have received envelopes of receipts with no return (or hard-to-read) addresses, so while I don't know your names, I thank you just the same. I also don't know the names of those who dropped off bags at the Center or at my home, so if your name isn't included, please don't be offended!

Your contributions were appreciated just as much. I'll talk to you in February.

Riverlands Article in January Audubon

by Paul Bauer

Look for a short article in your January 1994 issue of *Audubon* magazine about St. Louis Audubon and Riverlands working together. This article started with a conversation that our president, Mary Lou Miller, had with the editor of *Audubon* during a regional conference in June.

Information about the Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area and our cooperative efforts, along with a few eagle and heron photos, was provided by Paul Bauer. David Ulmer took photos of Jim Holsen and Paul meeting in the mud with Pat McGinnis, area manager of Riverlands.

We hope this article will encourage other groups to cooperate in ways that will create more wetlands for feeding use by migrating shorebirds and waterfowl.

Give the Gift of Nature and Help Audubon Grow!

National Audubon is making it easier for you to renew your membership and to give gift memberships. When you give your first gift, you'll receive the limited edition 1993 Painted Bunting Suncatcher ornament. Give 2 or more gift memberships and receive an additional bonus, Audubon's pocket guide, *A Selection of Familiar Birds of North America*.

The more memberships you give, the more you'll save. Your first gift, or your own renewal, is just \$30, and each additional gift is just \$20—a savings of 43% off basic membership dues! Remember, your chapter gets credit for each new membership, and Audubon has more valuable members like you.

If the new member resides in our territory, he or she will be added to our chapter. If the new member lives elsewhere and in the territory of a chapter, he or she will be assigned to that local chapter and will receive the local chapter newsletter.

Use the membership application below to renew your membership or enroll others. If it is a gift membership, make certain to add onto the application the giver's name and address. For more information and questions about membership, please call Katherine Chambers, H# 863-9346.

ST. LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Check the membership category desired: ☐ New ☐ Renewal

☐ Introductory/\$20

☐ Individual/\$35

☐ Family/\$40

☐ Sustaining/\$50

☐ Supporting/\$100

☐ Sr. Citizen/\$21

☐ Sr. Citizen Family/\$23

Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Send application to:

Mrs. Katherine Chambers, Membership Chairman
St. Louis Audubon Society 7XCH
7024 Forsyth
St. Louis, MO 63105

Make membership checks payable to:

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
If you wish to make a donation to the local chapter, please write a separate check to:
ST. LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Officers 1993-94

Mary Lou Miller	President	389-3969
Mary Dueren	VP-Education	576-1473
Jim Holsen	VP-Conservation	822-0410
James Jennings	VP-Finance	532-1725
Betsy Warren	Treasurer	892-1302
Don Davis	Secretary	773-8249

Board of Directors

Howard Adams	821-5160
Father Lawrence Asma	389-4394
Bill Brandhorst	965-7269
James Campbell	961-3236
Jerry Castillon	391-7586
Jim Houser	434-4896
George Johnson	862-0973
Mike Juelfs	464-9331
Jerry Klamon	865-3387
George Meyers	821-1585
Jerry Miller	389-3969
Arthur Montgomery	862-3517
Robert Remmert	522-3718
Rex Schmidt	861-2173
James Trager	1-742-0806
Dave Tylka	942-3142
Julie Wells	962-2093
Terry Whaley	938-5386

Other Chairpeople/Coordinators

Katherine Chambers	Membership	863-9346
Bill Kloppe	Rep. for SLEEN & SLEEC	962-7537
Janice Patton	Library	961-1545
Vi Pinkerton	Flowers (condolences, etc.)	469-2116
Nick Staten	Video & Slide Library/Posters	821-5560

THANK YOU

For Donations to the St. Louis Audubon Society:

LAVERNE KOYN, in memory of
Jesse LaFoy
LORNA SCIORTINO, in memory of
Olivia Steinberg

For Donations to

Audubon Adventures:

MICHAEL & PATRICIA ABBENE
DOUGLAS ALDRICH
KATHERINE CHAMBERS, in
memory of Jesse LaFoy
DAVID & BETTY MILLER, in
memory of Dr. Morris Hamburg
ASTERIE PROVENZO & MAIA
SCHULTZ, in honor of
Betty Parker's birthday
PAULINE RAINWATER
ST. LOUIS NATURE
STUDY SOCIETY
BILL WIESE, in memory of
Mary Wiese

Newsletter Information

The St. Louis Audubon Society's newsletter is printed bimonthly on recycled paper with soy ink. No staples are used so as to make the newsletter more easily recyclable. Printing is done by Dolde Printing Co., 1350 Lonedell Rd., Arnold, MO 63010.

Please send any article submissions for the next edition by **February 1, 1994** to Karen Tylka, 3155 Frisco Hill Rd., Imperial, MO 63052 (H# 942-3142).

Our Phone Number

To contact the St. Louis Audubon Society, please call (314) 389-8707.



printed on
recycled paper

ST LOUIS MO 63126-2417
9843 MEADOW FERN
MRS MARTIN M DIETRICH
MAY93
ENO1

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST. LOUIS, MO
PERMIT NO. 5128

St. Louis Audubon Society
3927 Lucas & Hunt Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63121

Fabulous wildlife and mysteries of antiquity await you with St. Louis Audubon!

BELIZE

TIKAL AND THE BARRIER REEF / MARCH 4, 1994

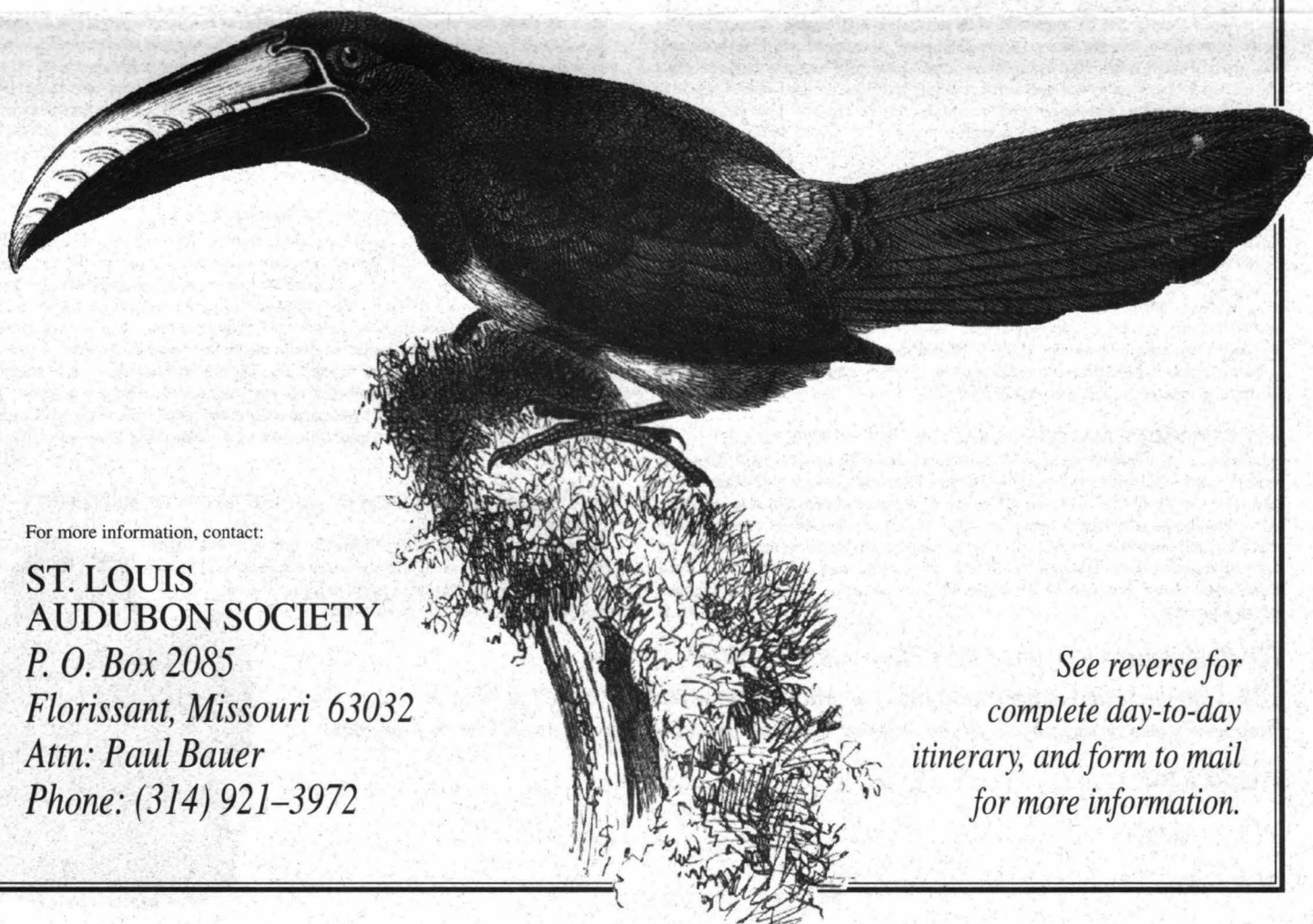
11 days \$2498 including round trip airfare from St. Louis

Lush, tropical rainforest, the Maya Mountains, subtropical pine savannahs, mangrove swamps and marshes on the coast, and the great barrier reef of the blue Caribbean — this is Belize, a land of natural wonders and ecological diversity that nurtured the magnificent Maya culture. Teeming with wildlife, Belize supports over 500 species of exotic birds, 250 varieties of orchids, and is one of the last stands of the elusive Jaguar. Five-foot Iguanas leaping into crystalline rivers, Howler Monkeys screaming in the jungle canopy, and countless caves and cascading waterfalls are all part of an unforgettable expedition into the heartland of the Maya. From the misty, pine-covered mountains and dense jungles to the world's second largest barrier reef, Belize offers you an unprecedented opportunity to experience a wealth of unspoiled, tropical environments.

EXCITING HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR BELIZE EXPEDITION -

- Snorkel along the world's second largest barrier reef. • Visit Tikal, greatest of all Maya ruins.
- See 1,200-foot waterfalls and huge caves in the Mountain Pine Ridge. • Enjoy canoe and boat excursions on tropical rivers.
- Swim in mountain streams under cascading waterfalls. • Search for rare jungle animals and birds with the best naturalist guides.
- Experience the culture of Belize by meeting the people and viewing special cultural performances.

EVERYTHING IS INCLUDED! Round trip airfare from St. Louis, all meals, hotels, internal transportation, activities, expert guides, & more.



For more information, contact:

**ST. LOUIS
AUDUBON SOCIETY**
P. O. Box 2085
Florissant, Missouri 63032
Attn: Paul Bauer
Phone: (314) 921-3972

*See reverse for
complete day-to-day
itinerary, and form to mail
for more information.*

ST. LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY / A NATURALIST QUEST - MARCH 4, 1994

BELIZE • TIKAL • MOUNTAIN PINE RIDGE • BARRIER REEF

DAY 1 - FRIDAY, MARCH 4 - ST. LOUIS / HOUSTON / BELIZE CITY

We depart St. Louis to connect through Houston this afternoon and fly to Belize City. After clearing customs we are met by our representative and transferred to our ocean-front hotel, the Fort George, where we spend the next two nights. This evening we enjoy a fine welcome dinner at Four Fort Street, one of the best restaurants in Belize. Afterward we view a slide presentation and learn of the conservation efforts currently underway within the country. D

DAY 2 - SATURDAY, MARCH 5 - BELIZE CITY

This will be a very rewarding day. Before breakfast, those who wish may join our guide for an early morning birdwalk along the waterfront. After breakfast we travel up the Northern Highway, then board boats for observation at Crooked Tree Wildlife Sanctuary. Our boats carry us up a narrow, winding jungle stream. Howler Monkeys, huge iguanas, and birds such as the Pygmy Kingfisher, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Boatbilled Heron, and many species of parrots can be observed and photographed at close range. After several miles of jungle stream, we enter Crooked Tree Lagoon. This shallow lake is up to a mile wide and more than 20 miles long. The banks are lined with interesting plants, and many water birds congregate around the lake. Common bird species include the Northern Jacana, many species of heron and Snail (Everglades) Kites. The most spectacular birds are surely the Jabiru Storks, which are the largest flying birds in the New World with a wing span of ten-twelve feet. The storks are seen occasionally at Crooked Tree during times of low water. NOTE: During periods of high water, when the birds have dispersed from Crooked Tree Lagoon, we will travel by boat to the Maya ruins of Lamanai. En route to Lamanai, we observe most of the same species except Jabiru. This afternoon we have the opportunity to observe rare Black Howler Monkeys, or Baboons as they are called locally. We drive to Bermudian Landing on the Belize River where in 1985 local farmers, the Belize Audubon Society and the World Wildlife Fund established the unique voluntary Community Baboon Sanctuary which now protects some 1,100 monkeys. These animals live in small, closely knit groups which are often quite accessible and provide exciting photographic opportunities. Late this afternoon we return to Belize City and the Fort George. B,L,D

DAY 3 - SUNDAY, MARCH 6 - BELIZE CITY / TIKAL

Today we make our way overland toward Tikal. Our first stop is at Guanacaste Park, which is named for the giant tree which is over 20 feet in diameter and is draped in bromeliads, orchids and other epiphytes. The park features a variety of plants, animals and birds. Later we cross the border into Guatemala and travel about 1 1/2 hours over rough roads to the edge of beautiful Lake Peten Itza, one of the largest lakes in Guatemala. A short distance away is Tikal National Park, the first park of its kind in Middle America. The 222 square miles of the park include 3,000 separate constructions within the six square miles of ruins that have so far been investigated. Abundant wildlife thrives in the carefully preserved tropical jungle. Rich in magnificent Spanish cedar, ceiba (sacred to the ancient Maya who believed its branches supported the heavens), mahogany and zapote (the sap is utilized as a chewing gum base), the national park deserves great credit for its conservation efforts. Since the animals are protected, they have no fear of people and are easily photographed. We spend the next two nights at the Tikal Inn. This is our most rustic accommodation. There is limited electricity and no hot water (pipe warmed only), however, the warm weather precludes its necessity. B,L,D

DAY 4 - MONDAY, MARCH 7 - TIKAL

This morning we awaken to the raucous chorus of the jungle. Overgrown ancient reservoirs give naturalists a unique opportunity to view canopy wildlife at eye level. There are 285 species of birds, and Toucan, Hawk, Motmot and Parrot are often seen. Other wildlife in residence includes Howler and Spider Monkeys, Peccary, Deer, Jaguar, Ocelot and Puma. The sheer immensity and towering structures of Tikal make this day a powerful experience. Believed to have covered 25 square miles, the population of the ancient city reached 75,000 to 100,000 souls. Pyramids soaring up to 212 feet, multi-leveled palaces, ball courts, plaza complexes, huge reservoirs, temples, terraces and shrines are surrounded by the exotic wildlife of the tropical rainforest. B,L,D

DAY 5 - TUESDAY, MARCH 8 - TIKAL / MOUNTAIN PINE RIDGE

The morning is free to spend exploring the mighty ruins and surrounding jungle of Tikal. After lunch we return to the Belize border, then up into the Mountain Pine Ridge and our accommodations at the beautiful Hidden Valley Inn. The inn is small — only 12 individual cottages, spaced around flowers and trees reminiscent of an English country inn. The Hidden Valley Inn provides a relaxing atmosphere after a day's excursion. It features full-course dining, a spacious lounge and reading rooms. The fresh-cut ornamental flowers that grace the tables are grown on the estate, as well as coffee, cocoa, tropical fruits and nuts. Each guest room is comfortably furnished and has its own charming fireplace and full private bath. B,L,D

DAY 6 - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9 - MOUNTAIN PINE RIDGE

The entire day is spent exploring the many fascinating areas of the Mountain Pine Ridge and Chiquibul Rainforest. Our first visit is only a short distance away at Hidden Valley Falls, which plummets almost 1200 feet. Our next stop is the magnificent Rio Frio Cave in the Chiquibul Rainforest. This gigantic cave, with its many unusual formations and cathedral ceiling, was once a site of ancient Maya rituals. Later we swim in cascading, freshwater pools before returning to the Hidden Valley Inn for a delicious dinner. B,L,D

DAY 7 - THURSDAY, MARCH 10 - XUNANTUNICH RUINS CHAA CREEK / MACAL RIVER

This will be a long but very exciting day spent entirely in the valley between the Mopan and Macal rivers. Our first stop is very near the Guatemalan border where we ferry across the green crystalline waters of the Mopan River to reach the ruins of Xunantunich. This Late Classic site is the largest in the valley and the longest established archaeological site in Belize. The hilltop location provides a panoramic view of house mounds, pyramids, palaces, and three ceremonial plazas. The largest pyramid is decorated with friezes and masks in the Classic style. Following lunch at Chaa Creek on the parallel Macal River, we take a special walk in the jungle in order to learn about the abundant medicinal plants which grow there. Many of these plants have proved their worth in modern Western medicine and the benefits of many more have yet to be discovered. We then board canoes for a leisurely trip down the Macal River and observe a variety of fascinating birds and animals, including five-foot Iguanas sunning themselves on overhanging tree branches. Afterward we meet our vehicle and return to the Mountain Pine Ridge and the Hidden Valley Inn. B,L,D

DAY 8 - FRIDAY, MARCH 11 - MOUNTAIN PINE RIDGE / BELIZE CITY AMBERGRIS CAYE

After morning birding, we travel down from the mountains to the Hummingbird Highway and a blue hole where the birding is excellent. The trail leads us through rainforest to a large cave opening. After a refreshing swim in the blue hole, we drive to the Belize Zoo and Tropical Education Center for a close-up look at native jungle animals. In Belize City we board our small plane to San Pedro, the picturesque fishing village on the tip of Ambergris Caye. After transferring to our ocean-front hotel where we spend the next three nights, we enjoy our dinner — a delight with fresh seafood in abundance. B,L,D

DAY 9 - SATURDAY, MARCH 12 - AMBERGRIS CAYE

Hot coffee awaits those who rise early. Following breakfast we familiarize ourselves with the snorkeling equipment and review proper technique and procedures. Our boat then takes us to patch reefs off the world's second largest barrier reef. At 195 miles in length, the reef is the largest in the Western Hemisphere. Over 220 types of fish, as well as hundreds of invertebrate species, can be found along this magnificent structure. Calm waters are protected by the reef and this is an excellent area for initial snorkeling and practice. After lunch we travel by boat to Hol Chan Marine Preserve, the newest sanctuary of its kind in the world. Here we may snorkel and view the myriad underwater life forms in an area considered one of the best snorkeling spots in the Caribbean. B,L,D

DAY 10 - SUNDAY, MARCH 13 - AMBERGRIS CAYE

Dawn beachcombing and birding activities are always available. After breakfast we depart for Bird Caye to study the extensive bird rookeries on the bay side of the island. More than 30 species of birds nest here including Reddish Egret, Cormorant and Great Egret. Many species feed in the inner lagoon including Spoonbill, Avocet and many ducks. We explore among the mangroves, noting species and behaviors. Large Spiny-tailed Iguana, bromeliads and orchids are common along the inner lagoon of this tiny island. The shells of bay species of mollusks may be found along the shoreline. After lunch we visit Laguna de San Pedro, an inner highland area. The high broadleaf forest and the mangrove edge provide an excellent setting for birding and observing other wildlife in this unusual habitat. The freshwater sinks in this unique island environment attract many species. Also, if one looks closely, Maya artifacts are scattered about the ground. (These are not to be taken home as souvenirs.) We then return to our hotel. B,L,D

DAY 11 - MONDAY, MARCH 14 - AMBERGRIS CAYE / BELIZE CITY HOUSTON / ST. LOUIS

Following an early breakfast we fly to Belize City. Our midmorning flight via Houston to St. Louis jets us home with spectacular memories of the blue Caribbean and verdant tropical jungles of Belize. There is ample time to make connecting flights onward. B

TO: Paul Bauer • P.O. Box 2085 • Florissant, MO 63032

Yes, I am interested in the trip to Belize in March, and would like more information.

Please send me the eight page full color brochure, complete reservation form, and lists of birds and animals seen by prior groups.

SEND TO: Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

